FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 MAY 1987

Jordanian-Syrian Summit

An Amman radio report on King Husayn's "brief working visit" to Damascus noted that he and President Hafiz al-Asad discussed ways to clear the Arab atmosphere and promote Arab solidarity and bilateral ties, as well as efforts to convene an international Middle East peace conference. In a cable to Al-Asad broadcast by the radio after his return to Jordan, Husayn said their talks "reconfirmed the importance and usefulness of coordination and joint action by our two countries." For Syria's part, Damascus radio reported that the talks dealt with regional developments, all aspects of the Arab situation, and bilateral relations.

The king's accompanying delegation, as listed by Amman television, included the Jordanian prime minister, court minister, and armed forces commander in chief, all of whom also took part in Husayn's recent visits to Cairo and Baghdad. Syrian participants in the talks included Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, according to Damascus television.

A commentary broadcast by Damascus radio before the king's arrival stressed the need for Arab solidarity in order to build a strategy of action capable of confronting the "U.S.-Zionist alliance." In Amman, the daily *Sawt al-Sha'b* accused Israel of using the "media clamor" over its internal differences as a "cover" for imminent military action in Lebanon. *Al-Dustur* contended that the results of the 13 May Israeli Inner Cabinet meeting "proved irrefutably that all Shim'on Peres was trying to market and sell to the whole world was completely baseless."

Israel

In remarks carried by Jerusalem radio prior to his departure for the United States, Foreign Minister Peres rejected "rumors concerning territorial concessions," stressing that he has made no commitment to give up any part of the occupied territories or to make any other kind of concession. Peres viewed the peace process as a matter of "life and death," and stressed his intention to continue promoting peace with full strength and and conviction.

In a separate development, Jerusalem radio noted that a Soviet delegation arrived in Israel to participate in the celebrations marking the 42nd anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany.

Lebanon

Damascus Talks — The 12th round of talks between Lebanese presidential envoys and Syrian officials was "stymied" by the issue of power sharing and the two sides failed to make any breakthrough in the Lebanese Government crisis, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Noting that power sharing was the main topic of the discussions in Damascus, the radio said that "no tangible progress" was made on this issue, although "new ideas" were discussed. In a related development in the Syrian capital, PSP leader Walid Junblatt discussed the cabinet crisis during talks with Syrian Vice President Khaddam, Radio Monte Carlo disclosed.

U.S. Hostage — The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that *Al-Nahar* has received a videocassette showing U.S. hostage Alann Steen reading a statement on behalf of his kidnappers, the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine (IJLP). The statement accuses the U.S. Government of ignoring the fate of the hostages and repeats IJLP demands for the release of Arab prisoners in Israel.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes hit another large maritime target near the Iranian coast 14 May, according to a military spokesman cited by INA. The agency also carried a military communique which noted Iraq's intention to retaliate for the killing or wounding of 59 Iraqi civilians in Iran's bombardment of Basra that day.

In another development, a military spokesman cited by INA denied Iranian claims about the security situation in northeastern Iraq, asserting that Iraqi forces are in full control of the border areas, including Halabjah. Iraq was responding to announcements by Tehran radio and IRNA that Iraqi Kurdish rebels assisted by Iranian forces recently gained control of Halabjah, Arbat, and other areas in the Iraqi border region southeast of Al-Sulaymaniyah. Tehran radio said the Iraqi Government responded to the Kurdish uprising by launching air and artillery attacks on Halabjah and Arbat.

Iran and the United States

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili warned the United States during Friday prayers that while Iranian fighters might entertain doubts about hitting Kuwaiti ships, "they will not entertain the slightest doubt in hitting American ships," Tehran radio reported. The ayatollah was responding to U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's warning that Iran should know that a U.S. ship is not the same as a Kuwaiti ship, the radio noted.

Arab-U.S. Relations

PLO on Congress Bills — Commenting on current draft U.S. legislation against the PLO, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said this "hostile new onslaught" initiated by "Zionist Americans" confirms the United States is the "primary enemy" of the Palestinian people. The radio said the PLO will confront these "blatant hostile trends" in U.S. policy with all its power.

Saudi Denial on Contras — A Saudi diplomatic source cited by KUNA denied that King Fahd discussed financial assistance to

the Nicaraguan contras during his last visit to the United States, adding that persons involved in the sale of U.S. arms to Iran "callously" named Saudi Arabia in this connection in order to divert attention from violations committed by highranking U.S. officials.

Sudan

INF on Government — The Islamic National Front (INF) will not be represented in the new government but it is ready to participate with the government in formulating national policies, INF Secretary General Hasan 'Abdallah al-Turabi asserted in a statement cited by SUNA. He spoke of a "crisis" in the democratic system and called for changes in the bases on which the government is formed and ministers are chosen.

Downed Plane — The minister of state for defense affairs confirmed that a military transport aircraft was recently hit by SPLA fire near Waw, SUNA reported, but he said the damage was minor and the plane was able to land safely.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Najibullah: Reconciliation Follows Islamic Law

LD142320 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 14 May 87

[Speech by Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, at a meeting with members of the Consultative Council of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowment and with Islamic scholars at the Islamic Studies Center in Kabul on 13 May — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted]

During this holy month of Ramadan, the international contest for recitation of the holy Koran will be held. An Islamic conference and a peace assembly will be held in Jalalabad very soon.

Our state makes comprehensive efforts to create the necessary conditions for religious personalities. You know that many efforts have been made to this end. The government has [word indistinct] to implement a number of other measures in this field. We wanted to ask you to present your proposals on increases in the salaries of prayer leaders and preachers in the communal mosques. A decision has been made to provide the necessary simultaneously to all the personnel and employees of Islamic science. Ulema and religious personalities will be honored more actively with medals. Instructions have been given to all party committees and state offices concerning [words indistinct] in the affairs of noble ulema, prayer leaders of the mosques, and preachers of shrines, and their financial and material requirements. All the people support the initiatives of the religious leaders and ulema wholeheartedly. [passage omitted]

In order to perform the religious rites freely, offices of religious affairs have been established for the personnel of the Armed Forces in the units and companies of the Army and in the Russian-trained police. According to the authority, there should be 426 prayer leaders in the Army and 420 prayer leaders in the Russian-trained police.

The [word indistinct] of national reconciliation and the end of war and fratricide are the order of God. However, there are persons who stand against God's instruction; they do not want peace and they shed Muslim blood in their own interest. The national reconciliation policy conforms completely with Islamic law. People who suffer from the war and people for whom war brings nothing but sadness and pain said they are ready for this policy to take effect.

I want to ask you, the preachers of reality and truth: Could propaganda related to this be improved? It could be done, for the most part. With the help of your propaganda, you — the propagandists of religion — should bring to the side of truth those who up to now have had a neutral stand and should bring feelings of friendship to those who look at us as the enemy. We should bring light and knowledge to those of our brothers who up to now have lived in darkness.

We ask you to hold an assembly of prayer leaders in the near future to discuss these issues and others.

The names of prayer leaders, mosques, and prayer places have profound religious links with each other. [passage indistinct] Only with your help can the climate of the mosques and prayer places be transformed into one of fraternity, Islamic propaganda, peace, and friendship.

Allow me — with respect to the holy month of Ramadan, during which the holy Koran was sent by god as a gift to Qari Barakatullah Salim, the famous qari [reader of the Koran] and honor of our country — to wish from the bottom of my heart prosperity, success, and victory to all of you and to our country's entire religious society.

Explains Program in Journal

For the text of an interview with Najibullah, PDPA Central Committee general secretary in the April issue of the Soviet journal AZIYA I AFRIKA SEGODNYA, in which he discusses progress with the reconciliation program, see the South Asia section of the 15 May Soviet Union *Daily Report*.

Pakistani 'Circles' Cited on PDPA Split

LD141449 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1159 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Islamabad, may 14 (TANJUG) — Pakistani circles, whose information about the developments in Afghanistan is known predominantly to come from rebel and western diplomatic sources, have of late been speculating about new, serious differences in the Kabul leadership, differences which could lead to the dismissal of Dr. Najibullah as general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA).

The speculations are based on the recent "unceremonious" departure of former Kabul regime head Babrak Karmal for the Soviet Union for "medical treatment" and the unconfirmed but most likely reliable reports that he had previously been placed under arrest.

Pakistani circles assess that Dr. Najibullah, took over as head of the Kabul regime exactly a year ago, has failed to eliminate the traditional rivalry between the two PDPA factions — Khalq and Parcham. What is more, as the same circles set out, some of his moves have caused a dangerous rift within the strong Parcham faction itself, dividing it into Karmal and Najibullah supporters.

According to Pakistani circles, a strong Khalq-Parcham grouping which opposes Najibullah's 'National Reconciliation' policy is in evidence in the Afghan party and state leadership. The "hardliners" stand a chance to continue gaining in influence, as the results of the "national reconciliation" policy and the readiness to compromise with the regime's opponents fall short.

Lastly, not a few believe that the Soviet Union, itself, is not too satisfied with Najibullah's performance to date.

Keshtmand Says 50,000 Return From Abroad
LD150618 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Kabul, May 14, Bakhtar — About fifty thousand Afghans who were living abroad have returned home since the announcement of the policy of national reconciliation, said Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and cairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, replying to the questions raised by party members in the party sessions held here on different socio-economic issues.

Under the policy of national reconciliation the necessary facilities for the participation of the Afghan returnees in different aspects of life-political, social and cultural have been provide. The party and state of the DRA, said Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, guarantees their equal rights with other citizens of the DRA.

Highlighting on the amenities of life for the returnees, the chairman of the Council of Ministers stressed that among other conveniences residential houses, employment opportunities, free health care, free education and other amenities of life will be provided to them as soon as the Afghan emigrees return home and resume their normal life.

The relatives have been given a rousing welcome by their relatives and the members of the commission of national reconciliation. All-sided assistance has also been rendered to them. The return of the residential houses of the repatriates and the restoration of the properties of the production enterprises have taken place under the decree of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

The process of providing such facilities to the returnees is continuing, said chairman of the Council of Ministers replying to the questions of the participants of the party session.

Tiwari To Visit PRC in June, Denies Tension

BK150258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Tiwari, says India is exploring avenues of settling the border issue with China amicably. He was talking to newsmen at Calcutta airport last evening while on his way to Tokyo. Mr Tiwari recalled that several rounds of talks have been held with China on the border issue. He wanted Beijing to fix a date for the next round. The last round was held in New Delhi in July. Mr Tiwari also disclosed that he proposes to visit Beijing next month after attending the conference of nonaligned foreign ministers in North Korea. He will discuss with the Chinese leaders measures to improve bilateral relations.

Asked about the reports in the Western media that there might be a confrontation between the two countries, the external affairs minister made it clear that India does not want war. Our stand on this has been spelt out clearly in parliament. We want to resolve our differences with China peacefully through negotiations. In reply to a question, he denied any knowledge about tension on the border.

Leaves for ROK, Japan

BK140904 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, left New Delhi for Seoul today on an official visit to the Republic of Korea and Japan. Talking to All India Radio Newsreel at the airport Mr Tiwari said he looks forward to improving relations with the Republic of Korea both in economic and political fields. He said during his visit to Japan he will meet his counterpart, Mr Kuranari, and discuss Indo-Japan economic relations, particularly in the context of appreciation of the Japanese currency, the yen. This, he said, had been inhibiting trade relationship.

'Crackdown' on Sikhs in Punjab Continues

Latest Arrests Detailed

BK141500 Hong Kong AFP in English 1441 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Chandigarh, India, May 14 (AFP) — A prominent legislator of the suspended Punjab assembly and three members of the Sikh religious parliament were arrested here Thursday as a crackdown on Sikh factions continued, a police spokesman said.

These and other detentions brought the total number of Sikh militants and sympathisers arrested in Punjab since Tuesday to 400, spokesman Anil Kaushik said. The *Press Trust of India* put the number of arrests in the three-day clampdown at 450.

Most of those arrested were said to be members of the militant United Akali Dal, the All India Sikh Students Federation — considered separatists' sword arm — and the shadowy Dam Dami Taksal factions, Mr Kaushik said.

Security forces Wednesday arrested Punjab's former Cooperation Minister Pritam Singh Chandramajra and about 350 other Sikhs after New Delhi dismissed the state's Sikh rulers in a Monday midnight announcement.

A prominent Sikh legislator of the Akali Dal Party, Masar Master Johar Singh, was arrested at this home early Thursday, Party President and former Punjab Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala told reporters.

Masar Master Johar Singh was elected by the Kannuan constituency of the militants' Gurdaspur District stronghold and was said to be high on a death-list of militant separatists campaigning for a Sikh homeland in the northern state.

Mr Kaushik said he had been arrested because he posed a "grave threat to peace."

Security forces also arrested three important members of the Sikh Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee (SGPC), the Sikh community's religious parliament, in the industrial district of Jallandhar overnight, the spokesman said.

The arrested SGPC members were identified as Satnam Singh, Pirat Singh and Pritam Singh and were accused of having links with the separatists in the state, he said.

He added that New Delhi had ordered federally-controlled paramilitary troops to function under the orders of state police chief Julio Ribeiro.

Akali Dal sources said the crackdown was expected to continue till the elections in neighbouring Haryana State were held on June 17.

None of the Sikh militants wanted by police in connection with several crimes, including murders, have been arrested since the crackdown began Tuesday, a day after the federal takeover.

Intelligence sources said police feared that Sikh militants who had gone underground to escape arrest would a last-minute desperate strike-back in the next few days. [sentence as received]

The relative calm prevailing since President Zail Singh took over Punjab's direct administration could be a lull before the storm, the sources said, adding that security agencies had been ordered to continue preventive arrests and prepare to counter any flare-up in Sikh militant activities.

Police Maintain 'Strict Vigil'

BK141615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] In Punjab, 72 more terrorists and their sympathizers were taken into custody today raising the total number of such arrests to 411. The state police chief, Mr Ribeiro, told our Chandigarh correspondent in an interview that the police and paramilitary forces are maintaining a strict vigil on the activities of the terrorists, extremists, and antisocial elements who are indulging in violence under the garb of religious and social reforms. He said nobody will be allowed to infringe upon the fundamental rights

of the people as enshrined in the constitution. Mr Ribeiro said his first task is to ensure that no innocent person is harassed or troubled by anybody in the state. He said his second task will be to win back the confidence of the people who feel hurt in one way or the other.

Former Punjab Minister Arrested

BK150322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] In Punjab, 102 more persons were taken into custody last night, raising the total number of arrests to 513. The latest arrests include a former minister, Mr Harbhajan Singh Sandhu, who was dismissed by Mr Barnala sometime back, and an Akali Dal legislator, Mr Johar Singh, who headed the State Civil Supplies Corporation.

The state police chief, Mr Ribeiro, told All India Radio correspondent in Chandigarh this morning that raids on suspected hideouts have been intensified. A number of terrorists were arrested in Faridkot and Ropar districts. A large quantity of arms and ammunition has also been recovered. He said that during a raid at a house in a village under Nihal Singhwala police station in Ferozepore district last night, a police head constable was killed when a neighbor opened fire. He said the neighbor appeared to have fired at the police party mistaking it for a gang of terrorists.

Barnala Interviewed

BK141507 London BBC World Service in English 1309 GMT 14 May 87

[Interview with dismissed Punjab chief minister Surjit Singh Barnala by BBC Delhi correspondent Mark Tully in Chandigarh, from the "24 Hours" program; date not given]

[Text] Unless there is a significant reduction in violence in the Indian State of Punjab, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's direct rule decision is going to appear very questionable. For him, effective government in Punjab would provide a counterweight to the recent pressure with scandal and resignations, but if he fails in his aims in improving security and controlling the Sikh extremists, his standing will be further diminished. Initially, over 200 people were arrested overnight and another 120 or more have been detained. The state governor says the lifting of president's rule will depend on the restoration of some semblance of law and order. The former chief minister of Punjab, Surjit Singh Barnala, has been talking about the position of direct rule and his own removal from power. Mr Barnala has led the Sikh religious party, the Akali Dal, ever since the assassination of Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, who signed a peace accord with Mr Gandhi in 1985. In an interview with the BBC's Mark Tully in the Punjabi capital, Chandigarh, Mr Barnala denied that there was any extreme security problem in Punjab to justify Mr Gandhi's intervention. So he was asked why he thought Mr Gandhi had taken this action.

[Begin recording] [Barnala] The only reason that I can think of is the Haryana election. Haryana election is very close now, and Congress Party cannot afford to lose this election. So they can do anything for winning the election. Here, some of his advisers probably brought to his notice that taking such measures in Punjab might be helpful in Haryana, and that is how I think that they have been able to... [changes thought] They have been forced to impose president's rule here.

[Tully] You must feel personally very badly let down by Rajiv Gandhi?

[Barnala] Yes, I had a liking for the prime minister, and I still continue to like him. This is since the time of Sant Longowal. Sant Longowal liked the prime minister. He told me that he had liked him as a sincere person, as a noble man, and as a truthful man. He talks from his heart. That is what Sant Longowal conveyed to me, and I have all the time since then carried that impression with me, and I still hold that impression.

[Tully] Do you think that there is a possibility that Rajiv Gandhi will only impose president's rule for short time and then perhaps ask you to form the government again?

[Barnala] I can't say anything about that, but ours is the largest party commanding majority in the assembly, and whenever a government is to be formed, it should be formed by the largest party in the assembly.

[Tully] Rajiv Gandhi appears, or it is reported in the press, that he has also started negotiations through a third party with the militants themselves. Do you approve of that of negotiating over your head with the militants?

[Barnala] We don't have any evidence of that, but in case peace is restored in Punjab by whatever negotiation, by whatever understanding, I will always welcome it.

[Tully] You talk of peace being restored, but what is your party going to do, because your party normally in situations like this would resort to launching some form of agitation against the dismissal of government. Are you going to do that?

[Barnala] No. You see, we are working on the instructions, on the guidelines set up by Sant Longowal, and they were that peace is to be brought to the state by creating mutual goodwill among the people, by creating an atmosphere of brotherhood in the state, by amity and goodwill. So, we are trying to follow those footsteps.

[Tully] So, there will be no Akali Dal agitation against your dismissal?

[Barnala] I don't say there won't be any agitation. We might chalk out a program when we are meeting next time in the working committee meeting on the 19th. But it's not necessary always to have an agitation for achieving a goal.

[Tully] Now you talk of Sant Longowal, former president of the Akali Dal. He signed an agreement with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Many of the terms of that agreement remain unimplemented, and now your government has been dismissed. Isn't that agreement now a dead letter?

[Barnala] We never consider that agreement as a dead letter because for us it is a sacred document and will remain a sacred document because it was signed with the blood of Sant Longowal. We still consider that this is the best hope for Punjab and ultimately, some day, the central government will have to implement it in toto.

[Tully] You firmly believe still after all that has happened that Rajiv Gandhi will implement that agreement in toto?

[Barnala] Yes, my belief is still there. [end recording]

Resolution Opposes Direct Rule

BK141704 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] The meeting of the non-Congress-I opposition parties has decided to constitute a committee to evolve a common candidate for the forthcoming presidential election. It will consist of the Telugu Desam Party president, Mr Rama Rao; the Janata Party president, Mr Chandrashekhar; and the CPI-M general secretary, Mr E.M.S. Namboodiripad. A resolution was passed at the meeting in New Delhi today.

In another resolution they criticized the imposition of president's rule in Punjab. It is alleged in the resolution that the president's rule is an attempt to create discord between the people of Haryana and Punjab for electoral gains in Haryana. The 2-day meeting of the opposition leaders has been convened by Mr Rama Rao, as agreed to in the last month's meeting of the six non-Congress-I chief ministers. Mr Rama Rao told newsmen that, out of the 13 parties invited, 11 attended today's meeting. CPI and Asom Gana Parishad abstained while BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] was not invited.

Tripura Extremists Kill 3 Security Personnel

BK141255 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] In Tripura, three border security force [BSF] personnel, including a subinspector, were killed and one civilian was injured in an ambush by TNV [Tripura National Volunteers] extremists this morning. The ambush occurred near Ultachara in South Tripura district. A gang of about 25 TNV extremists equipped with automatic weapons fired at a BSF vehicle, killing the BSF men. They also attacked a truck this afternoon and set fire to it.

Gandhi On Efforts To Solve Sri Lanka Crisis

BK141133 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has announced that his government has prepared a paper to solve the Sri Lankan ethnic crisis. Mr Gandhi, who described the paper as a good basis for reopening the dialogue, reiterated that a military solution to the problem could not be pursued. According to Indian press reports monitored by LANKA PUWATH, Mr Gandhi made this disclosure while addressing the Indian government parliamentary group on Tuesday. The Indian prime minister is reported to have said that only a negotiated solution would work and that the Sri Lanka Government's 19 December proposals constituted a basis for talks. He has also said that India would do everything possible to bring the terrorists and the Sri Lankan Government to the negotiating table.

'Deep Concern' Expressed Over Fiji Coup

BK141605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] India has expressed deep concern over the reports of a military coup in Fiji. In a statement, an official spokesman said the government is distressed to hear reports of the prime minister and his cabinet colleagues having been taken into custody. Describing these developments as disquieting, the spokesman said that the Government of India hopes that racial harmony in Fiji will be maintained.

Meanwhile, the government is in touch with the Indian high commissioner to Fiji about the latest developments. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, had talks with the Commonwealth secretary general, Mr Ramphal, in this regard.

Afghan Jets Strike Border Villages 4 May

BK121728 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 5 May 87 p 1, 8

[From Rahimullah Yusufzai]

[Text] Peshawar, May 4 — A total of nine persons were killed and 18 others sustained injuries in an air strike by Afghan planes on Monday morning and in three separate bomb explosions in North Waziristan agency yesterday. Among the dead were the seven faithfuls who were martyred while praying in Gurbaz village when a handgrenade was hurled into the mosque by certain unknown persons.

As many as 22 Afghan planes violated Pakistan's airspace in North Waziristan agency this morning and bombed and rocketed the border village of Gulam Khan Bazar, Sherkhel and Mirakay. Most of the damage was caused in Gulam Khan Bazar where one house was up in flames after the bombing and another seven were demolished. Two children were killed and the seven who sustained injuries included two women. All of them are locals belonging to the Pakhtoon tribe of Gurbaz.

Names of only three of the injured could be ascertained. They are Mst Bibi Nasira, Ikhtiar Gul, and Mashal Mulla. The injured were shifted to the ICRC hospital in Miranshah about 18 kilometres away, from where the critically wounded were transferred to Peshawar.

Earlier yesterday morning, Afghan aircraft had intruded into Pakistan's territory and dropped at least two bombs in hills near Gulam Khan Bazar village and Saidgai villages besides rocketing targets. The bombs did not explode but there were conflicting reports about the casualties. An unconfirmed report said four persons, including two women and a boy, were killed in the attack and two hutments were destroyed.

Intermittent shelling by Afghan tanks and artillery continued in the border areas yesterday and today amidst news that a large DRA and Soviet force was moving from Khost towards the Pak Afghan border. It apparently aimed at flushing out Mujahideen bases in the area. The three bomb blasts which shook North Waziristan agency yesterday were reported from Gurbaz and Naurak villages and from Miranshah. The handgrenade explosion in Gurbaz mosque, located 20 kilometres from the agency headquarters of Miranshah, was unprecedented as it is the first time that such an incident has taken place. The handgrenade was allegedly tossed into the mosque by saboteurs at a time when the faithful were offering prayers last night. Seven tribesmen were killed on the spot while another nine were injured. The peshimam had a miraculous escape. The injured were attended to by ICRC first aid teams in Miranshah and later rushed to their surgical hospital in Peshawar.

The second bomb explosion occurred yesterday evening in an orchard in Naurak village eight kilometres from Miranshah. Two tribesmen, Lal Mohammad, son of Bazi and Zardilk Khan son of Abdullah Khan were grievously injured in the blast. Lal Mohammad right leg had to be amputated.

4 Killed, 32 Injured in 14 May Bomb Explosion

BK141121 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Four persons were killed and 32 others injured when a parcel bomb exploded in a bus at the general bus stand in Peshawar this afternoon. The injured have been admitted to the Lady Reading Hospital. The bus, which was about to leave for Abbottabad, caught fire and was completely gutted, and a few nearby buses were damaged.

Resumption of Geneva Talks Expected in June

BK141155 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The indirect Geneva talks on Afghanistan are expected to resume next month. A foreign office spokesman said in Islamabad today that the UN secretary general's personal representative, Mr Cordovez, is in contact with Pakistan for finalizing the date for the next round of talks. He said Pakistan has conveyed to Mr Cordovez its reaction on his suggestion for the date.

Replying to a question, the spokesman said Pakistan has not received any proposal after Geneva talks offering reduction of timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Spokesman on Nuclear Cooperation With France

BK141654 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 May 87

[Excerpts] Pakistan has welcomed the French offer of negotiations on the construction of a nuclear power plant at Chashma after the reprocessing plant issue has been settled. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that serious discussions have begun on Pakistan's claim for compensation for France' nonfulfillment of the agreement to supply a nuclear reprocessing plant. Pakistan hopes that the compensation will be commensurate with the losses it has incurred due to France' nonfulfillment of the agreement about 8 years ago, which caused a serious setback to Pakistan's nuclear energy program in addition to immense financial losses. He expressed the hope that Pakistan will receive adequate compensation, leading to an appropriate settlement of this issue and paving the way for an increase in bilateral cooperation.

In reply to a question, the spokesman disclosed that Pakistan is considering the issue of an early ratification of the treaty on a partial restriction on nuclear tests. Pakistan signed this agreement in 1963 and now considers itself morally committed to the pact, which prohibits nuclear tests in the atmosphere, under water, and in the upper atmosphere. Pakistan, the spokesman explained, has not ratified the treaty so far because it is confident that a treaty will soon be arrived at totally banning nuclear explosions. He added that the treaty for a partial ban on nuclear tests does not apply to underground nuclear explosions and experiments. In this connection, the spokesman referred to India's nuclear explosion in 1974, although that country is a signatory to the treaty.

The spokesman added that the UN-sponsored Geneva proximity talks on Afghanistan are expected to resume next month. [passage omitted]

The spokesman denied that Pakistani aircraft have been instructed to penetrate into Afghanistan to pursue Kabul regime aircraft violating Pakistani airspace. The spokesman reiterated that there has been no change in the government's policy of keeping Pakistani aircraft within its airspace. It has been Pakistan's endeavor from the very beginning not to exacerbate the Afghanistan problem.

Referring to the Pakistani decision to acquire an early warning and surveillance system, the spokesman said the decision has been made in light of Pakistan's desire to ensure its air defenses while remaining well within its airspace.

Referring to opposition of neighboring countries to Pakistan's acquisition of any kind of equipment for its defense, the spokesman said that this opposition runs contrary to the principles of sovereign equality. He reiterated that Pakistan has never raised a hue and cry over the acquisition of military equipment by others. He referred to the acquisition of an aircraft carrier by a neighboring country [India], which is capable of carrying out aggressive action a very long distance from its territorial waters.

Answering a question about the Pakistani defense team now in Washington, the spokesman said this is a part of U.S.-Pakistani officials' biannual negotiations on credits to be provided by the United States to meet Pakistan's defense requirements.

SRI LANKA

Land Mine Blast Kills 6 Security Personnel

BK141127 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0829 GMT 14 May 87

["OANA/POOL" item]

[Text] Colombo, May 14 (LANKA PUWATH) — Six security forces personnel were killed as a result of terrorist landmine explosions in the Trincomalee district, Sri Lanka's Eastern Province Today.

The media centre in Colombo old LANKA PUWATH that between Irrakkandy and Nilaweli three servicemen were killed and another injured as a result of an explosion caused by a terrorist landmine.

At Panmeda — Wachchiya off Morawewe, [as received] three more servicemen were killed while two others were wounded as a result of a similar explosion.

Government To Settle Prisoners in East

BK141401 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Prison (?headquarters) says that the Jayewardene government has now decided to give amnesty to Sri Lankan prisoners, who will then settle in the Eastern Province with their families. Asenior official of the Sri Lankan prison department reported that so far more than 5,000 prisoners jailed for various offenses have acquiesced to this government request. They have sent applications indicating their willingness to the (?attention of) the director of Sri Lankan prisons at prison headquarters. The reports add that after scrutiny by the Law Ministry and recommendations on the applications to the president, [the prisoners] will be released unconditionally and settled in the Eastern Province with their families. The Sinhalese families to be settled in Trincomalee District will also receive government assistance. Reports from Sri Lanka say that a total of (?17,613) persons, including 55 under sentence of death, are serving terms in Sri Lankan jails.

Soldier Defects to LTTE, Gives Interview

BK131544 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Reports say that a soldier from (Kattuwan) [words indistinct] military camp left on Saturday [9 May] night and surrendered to the LTTE through the general public of (Kattuwan). The soldier, Chandrasekaran from Kandy, aged 19, is now in the custody of the LTTE. He has given an interview to the newspapers (*Eela Murasu*) and *Eelanadu* of Jaffna. He said he joined the Army because of family difficulties and was brought to Jaffna after 4 month training at (Ethala). He added that he was denied leave to go home and that 15 other soldiers are ready to leave the camp like this.

Meanwhile, there was shelling from Jaffna Fort on Sunday. A plane was seen on a reconnaissance mission there.

Talk of U.S. Good Will 'Professional Charlatanism'

LD142008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1200 GMT 14 May 87

[From the Press Review]

[Excerpts] "The United States is Still in Debt" is the title of an article from the daily *Abrar* that we have selected for you.

The daily writes: The United States has finally yielded to the verdict of the Hague Tribunal. Charles Redman, spokesman for the U.S. State Department, announced that $454 million of the Iranian assets frozen in the United States are to be released. [passage omitted]

Some of the mass media and observers say that by releasing the $454 million, the United States intends to make a friendly gesture toward Iran, and so they look with favor on the United States. This idea is baseless. The United States had to release this sum immediately. Not only did it not do so but, rather, it delayed releasing the money for as long as possible. Incidentally, this money had nothing to do with the Algerian Accords. Those who say that the United States has made a friendly gesture toward the Islamic Republic should realize that U.S. enmity, opposition and hostility against the Islamic revolution is so deep that Washington has not yet paid a dime in connection with the Algerian Accords. With regard to these accords, the United States owes the Islamic Republic for weapons that have been purchased and have been paid for, and for the unfinished projects and the losses and damage of the pre- and post-revolution era. But to date it has refused to release these assets and instead has resorted to bullying.

There is further proof that the claim that the United States is being friendly and flexibile toward Iran is baseless. The proof lies in the hostility of the U.S. Administration during the imposed war and the fact that the Americans have been baring teeth and claw to the Muslim people of Iran. By employing every possible means, the United States has so far tried to block a victory by the Islamic combatants.

The visit by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy to the Persian Gulf region, which is intended to reassure the Ba'thist regime of Iraq and to fan the flames of the crisis in the Persian Gulf, is indicative of U.S. ill intentions. When Murphy says that the Iran-Iraq war should have no victor, it is obvious that he does not mean Iraq, for an Iraqi defeat is inevitable. The United States is thinking of a victory by Iran, which is prevailing in the war, which has recaptured its territories, previously occupied by the aggressive Iraqi Zionist regime, and which has also liberated some strategic and significant areas inside Iraq.

To speak of U.S. flexibility and a gesture of good will is professional charlatanism. The United States is posing as a friend, but who is so simple not to understand that it is the nature of capitalism and of global arrogance to stand against the oppressed of the world?

Further Reportage on Ground, Naval Battles

IRGC Controls Kurdish Towns

LD141226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] According to a report of the Central News Unit, the General Staff of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced: Following the uprising of the Muslim people of the Iraqi Kurdish regions and their takeover of several Iraqi towns with the backing of the popular forces and the Ramazan headquarters warriors, combatants from the 75th Victory Brigade of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps under command of the Ramazan headquarters entered the towns of Halabjah and Arbat last night and this morning. They took control of the linking roads between Khurmal, Halabjah and Sayyid Sadiq. This was accomplished with the cooperation of the Democratic Party forces and troops of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK).

During these successful operations which led to total liberation of these towns, our combatants captured dozens of vehicles belonging to the Iraqi Ba'thist forces. A large number of weapons and ammunition were also captured intact as booty. They were placed at the disposal of the Muslim people of these towns to continue the struggle.

During these operations, 70 enemy troops and mercenaries of the Iraqi regime were taken prisoner; and right now, the Muslim people of these towns, the Iraqi combative groups, and the forces of the 75th Brigades of the Guards Corps ground forces, by controlling the liberated areas, are preparing themselves for another confrontation with the enemy forces.

According to this report, following the liberation of these towns, the Iraqi regime today used dozens of its planes and heavy artillery fire to launch barbaric attacks on the towns of Arbat and Halabjah and to inflict damage on these two towns.

Another report, quoting the General Staff of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, indicates that the forces of the Ramazan headquarters, with the cooperation of the Democratic Party peshmerga, launched a surprise attack during the past few days and succeeded in surrounding the military garrison of the Iraqi town of (Dayrluk). While cutting off this garrison's links and its water and power supplies, our forces set ablaze two armored cars of the Iraqi army together with their crews. Also during this operation, 15 agents and mercenaries of the Iraqi regime were taken prisoner. Among the prisoners are the official in charge of Jaysh al-Sha'bi of the town of (Dayrluk) and one of the hirelings of the Saddam regime, Sayyid Hasan 'Abdallah Tahir, and an officer named Captain ('Ali Kishni).

The peshmerga of the Iraqi Kurdish Democratic Party, during another operation in the Surkeh region, succeeded in downing a helicopter of the Iraqi Army and killing the 7-man crew of the helicopter including Pilot-Colonel Hamid Sa'id and First Lieutenant Reza 'Aqlan.

Efforts To Crush 'Uprising' Fail

LD150546 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 15 (IRNA) — The uprising of Muslim Iraqi Kurds against the Ba'thist regime in Baghdad is still continuing in parts of Iraq's Kurdistan and according to latest reports combatant Kurdish fighters are in full control of the cities of Halabjah, Sayyid Sadiq, and Khurmal, as well as the 'Dairavan' [name as received] District in Salemiyeh Province.

Announcing this, a spokesman for the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] of Iraq further stated in an interview with IRNA Thursday that the military garrison of 'Dair-Louk' and the 'Batoufa' [name as received] district governorate both in Ammadiya of Mosul province, are also under siege by the KDP forces who have encircled a joint batallion of Iraqi troops and 'local mercenaries' in the garrison.

He added that (until Thursday night) three heavy Iraqi counter-offensives to break the siege of the garrison had failed.

He said KDP, PUK and other combatant forces have, alongside each other, risen up against "the fascist Ba'thist regime" of Iraq by taking arms and liberating connection routes in Halabjah, Sayyid Sadiq, Khurmal and Dairavan.

The spokesman said the revolutionary forces are preventing reinforcements from reaching the Iraqis in these cities by setting up fortifications on the connection routes.

He said over the past week, over 1,000 local armed men have joined the revolutionary forces together with their families.

The spokesman also said a large number of Iraqi troops from Batallion 111 of Division 23 of the Iraqi Army have been killed and wounded in the recent fighting and 56 of them, including commander of the batallion, Captain Abdolhamid Khattab Abdullah from 'Mahmur' region of Erbil Province have been captured.

He said the people in the 'liberated cities' have been subjected to air raids and artillery attacks of the Iraqi Army.

The KDP spokesman said "we have evidences that the uprising in Kurdistan will rapidly spread and we predict greater (?victory).

Communique No 2,836

LD141635 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 14, IRNA — An Iraqi gunboat appeared in Khawr 'Abdallah waterway at 16:57 GMT Wednesday but was forced to flee by the timely coastal artillery fire of the naval forces, according to the Joint Staff Communique No. 2836 released here today.

The communique added that Iranian Navy intercepted and searched three tankers in the Hormuz Strait but allowed them to continue voyage when no Iraq-bound cargo turned up on board.

Meanwhile, Iranian patrols successfully carried out their missions in the northwestern fronts locating and seizing some Iraqi weaponry, munitions and communication sets. Exchange of artillery fire continued along the western fronts where Iranian forces set afire an Iraqi vehicle, five individual and group bunkers and watch posts, inflicting considerable casualties on the enemy.

Movements of Iraqi motorized columns were checked and brought under fire by Muslim combatants in areas overlooking Mehran. Several Iraqi bunkers were destroyed and a number of enemy soldiers were killed and wounded as a result of Iranian fire, said the communique. Artillery fire of the Muslim forces silenced Iraqi tank fire in Pich-Angizeh, southern fronts, with the enemy tanks suffering some losses. All reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters were also checked in Bubiyan operational region.

Gendarmerie forces of the Islamic Republic continuing their defensive operations destroyed a heavy Iraqi vehicle, a munitions dump and eight gun emplacements killing or wounding several Ba'athist troops. According to the communique Iraqi warplanes chemically bombed Kani Sour, Zarba, Malmal and Bolhassan [placenames as received] near the city of Baneh, Kordestan Province Wednesday wounding 27 villagers.

Two Iraqi warplanes also violated Sar Dasht air space three times on the same day but were forced to flee when faced with heavy anti-aircraft fire of the Muslim forces, the communique said.

Navy Fires on 'Umm Qasr Jetty

LD141818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] According to a report by the headquarters of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in retaliation for the misdeeds of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime in attacking a number of industrial-economic centers in our country last night, long-range coastal artillery units of the IRGC naval forces fired on 'Umm Qasr jetty and the economic and military installations there. Artillery fire also reached the frigates berthed nearby, as well as the military bases of the Iraqi navy Seventh Division [as heard] and an ammunition depot on the base. A group of the enemy forces was killed due to the fire, which inflicted heavy damage on the installations.

Also last night, a vessel of the Iraqi Regime's Navy was brought under coastal artillery fire by the IRGC naval forces while attempting to carry supplies for the Al-'Amyah oil platform. The vessel sustained some damage and was forced to leave.

Ilam Forces Head for Fronts

NC150632 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] The Central News Unit reports from Ilam that in a continuation of the extensive departure of popular forces for the fronts of the war of good against evil, yesterday afternoon the third convoy of the "Imam of the Ages Corps" of Ilam Province, consisting of two battalions of trained, reserve, and technically

specialized forces, left for the fronts. These forces, from the cities of Ilam, Shirvan, Chardavol, Mehran, Dehloran, and Darreh Shahr and from districts of Abdanan, (Beyvan), and Malakshahi, left for the battlefields to fight the Zionist enemy after gathering at a military garrison and chanting: "War, war until victory" and "Death to America."

Officials Decry Silence on Chemical Weapons Use

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Cites Report

LD141231 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report on today's open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, expressed his felicitations on the blessed birth anniversary of His Holiness Imam Hasan Mujtaba [second Shi'ite imam] PBUH. After this, he referred to the first report of the commission charged with investigating the use of chemical weapons in Iran and Iraq. The report confirmed that Iraq recently made extensive use of chemical weapons and poisonous gases in Iran. He said: The commission saw no proof to substantiate the Iraqi claims that Iran had used chemical weapons against Iraq. In our view it is time for international organizations and bodies to end their indifference, which leaves international regulations and principles without guardians or supporters, thereby making a mockery of them. They should pay attention to the fact that the aggressive Ba'thist Party of Iraq has repeatedly resorted to these crimes, and in order to justify its action, has lied and accused the Islamic Republic of Iran which is defending itself and does not resort to using chemical weapons.

According to the report, this morning's Majlis sesson continued the reading of the legal bill on the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Four more articles of the bill were approved.

Security Council Criticized

LD141416 Tehran IRNA in English 1349 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 14, IRNA — Deputy foreign minister for economic and international affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani said here Thursday that the U.N. Security Council despite valid evidences has still kept silent vis-a-vis Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons.

Speaking at a televised press conference, Larijani referred to the report prepared by the U.N. delegation on the Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons and said although position taking against war crimes and infringement of human rights did not require certain conditions, the U.N. Security Council was surprisingly still silent on this grave issue.

Pointing to the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's note to the Security Council together with the U.N. delegation's report confirming the Iraqi use of toxic gases, Larijani said De Cuellar had expressed deep concern over the continuation of these crimes. The U.N. secretary general has called on the Security Council to take a positive and decisive stance in halting deployment of chemical weapons, he said. Larijani said the U.N. delegation after traveling to both Iran and Iraq and visiting war zones, handed over a report on the extensive and continued Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons to the U.N. secetary general.

One of the important points in the report, Larijani said, is the emphasis of the delegation on the Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons against civilians. The delegation visited civilian victims of the Iraqi chemical bombardments, in hospitals in western Iran. A child injured in the Iraqi chemical bombardment was martyred due to severe injuries, he said.

Whereas, he added, in the delegation's report on its visit to Iraq it had been stipulated that there was no ground for Iraq to prove its claim that the Iranians ever resorted to these weapons.

Larijani referred to continuous Iraqi aggressions and crimes during the past seven years, including attacks on residential areas and deployment of chemical weapons. Addressing international bodies which sought an end to the war through negotiations, Larijani said while the Security Council keeps mum vis-a-vis these crimes, how could they expect Iran to remain silent and sit at negotiating table.

He warned countries which provided Iraq with facilities and raw materials required for production of chemical weapons that the Islamic Republic of Iran was preparing a list of these countries which would be put shortly at the disposal of world public opinion and international societies.

Stressing that the Security Council had made no positive and principal effort in condemning deployment of chemical weapons, Larijani said as long as the Security Council did not condemn the Iraqi attack on Iran, there would be no possibility for Iran to cooperate with the council.

On the stance of Arab countries of the Persian Gulf region towards the Iraqi-imposed war, Larijani said Iran had repeatedly announced it would be to the advantage of these countries to revise their policy and stop their economic, political and military assistance to Iraq.

He stressed if the idea of aggression spreads, no country in the region would be secure. It would be in the interest of the region if aggression was decisively resisted in the same manner that Iran had announced its resolute stance vis-a-vis aggression, whether it was in Afghanistan, Lebanon or Nicaragua, he added.

On U.S. objective in the region and recent rip of Richard Murphy to a number of Persian Gulf countries, Larijani said the U.S. on the one hand was trying to restore its tarnished reputation and justify its measures in connection with Iran to its allies in the region. On the other hand, he said, the U.S. in order to safeguard its interests in the region after the imminent downfall of the Iraqi regime was trying to create a police atmosphere in the Persian Gulf.

But, he said, regional countries would be wiser to resist Murphy's bait, since U.S. promises had so far failed to be realised for rulers of the regional countries.

Referring to the presence of superpowers and other foreign

powers in the Persian Gulf region, Larijani stressed on Iran's stance and said as a powerful country Iran demands preservation of security in the region by the Persian Gulf countries themselves,

He concluded by saying that other countries should take a principal stance towards condemnation of the aggressor, adding that the Soviet Union should not defend the aggressor or put its facilities at the disposal of countries which have constantly supported the war-mongering Iraqi regime.

Peace Efforts Linked to Iraqi Military Problems

NC141207 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0445 GMT 14 May 87

[Commentary from the "Developments on the Front" feature]

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister officially appeals for an immediate and peaceful termination of the war. The Kuwaiti Government calls for the presence of foreign powers in the Persian Gulf. The U.S. Administration once again points to the need for political talks to end the war. *Le Monde* reports that the permanent UN Security Council members held 13 confidential meetings and studied the existing political mechanisms to end the war. The U.S. special envoy to the region, Richard Murphy, announces that the continuation of the war threatens the interests of the United States and its allies in the region.

Dear friends, I ask you: In your opinion, what is the reason for this unprecedented activity and what objectives are the various governments pursuing? There are many answers to this question. However, the easiest and most obvious answer undoubtedly is the history of the imposed war.

At various points of the war, have we not seen these people pulling up their sleeves to help the aggressive Ba'thists of Iraq after they have suffered a crushing blow? Have we not actually witnessed these persons rushing to save the Baghdad leaders every time the combatants of islam have crushed the aggressors with their blows? Therefore, these organizations' and governments' current activities obviously are closely linked to Baghdad's military problems on the fronts. However, because these activities are vaster and stronger than before, it is clear that the enemy's weakness and the current danger threatening the Aflaqite regime today is greater and more serious than before.

Meanwhile, irrespective of the objectives pursued by Saddam's mentors, their hasty resort to all possible means should be a clear proof to you, the resistant Iranian nation, that you have been following the right path. In other words, the enemy's unprecedented efforts, clearly linked to the imperialists' fear of the Baghdad regime's downfall, undoubtedly proves that the great efforts by the combatants of Islam on the fronts are starting to bear fruit. This in turn means that the just end of the war has been correctly discerned by the Iranian nation.

Yes, strangling the aggressor and increasing pressure on it until it surrenders is the best way to end the war. Our hopes to re-establish the Iranian nation's rights; to punish the war criminals; to be compensated for 7 years of destructive fighting; to avenge the blood of the oppressed martyrs; to punish the fomenters and protracters of the war; and, in short, to achieve justice and equity cannot be attached to organizations or countries which themselves have fanned the flames of this war. The only path is that chosen by the Islamic Republic of Iran. The enemy, which has reached its end, should be dealt continuous and decisive blows and an end should be put to Saddam's mentors' unsuccessful efforts to save his regime.

In any case, the continuous and persistent presence of the nation is what has brought Saddam near his end and has cut off his supporters' hopes, and also what will determine the destiny of the war. The nation's active participation in the battlefields, including its deployment of its children to the fronts and behind the fronts, is the most important element that will lead to the combatants' victory. Young and old, urban and rural dwellers, clergymen and laymen are all fighting for one objective, and the outcome of their struggles will be victory and the victory of Islam.

Commentary Rejects Return of Monarchy for DRA

NC141041 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 14 May 87

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Text] The resistance and persistent struggles of the Muslim mujahedin in Afghanistan over the past 8 years have changed the overall situation in that country. On the one hand, the Russians — who expended great efforts to occupy Afghanistan and to impose the atheistic Marxist ideology on the Muslim people of Afghanistan — were forced to retreat from their positions after suffering great losses. On the other hand, because of these same efforts by the Afghan Muslims, the United States and its allies — which continuously interfered in Afghanistan's affairs as the Soviet Union's rival — apparently have agreed with the Russians that even a monarchy would be better than a regime based upon the votes of the Muslim Afghan nation. They have done so because they fear that the Muslim mujahedin may gain power in Afghanistan and establish a nonaligned state not dependent upon either East or West but based upon Islamic ideology. The two superpowers' great concern over an Afghan Government that will determine its own destiny independently ensured that both sides did not permit their agreement to contain any ambiguities.

Deceptions by both East and West have all been foiled so far, thanks to the Islam-inspired vigilance of the Afghan Muslim Mujahedin. Naturally, this fresh deception also will be completely thwarted by the alert Afghan Muslim Mujahedin.

We saw how all combatant Afghan groups rejected the return of former Afghan King Mohammad Zaher Shah when that issue was raised. Not only did they describe this as a fresh ploy by the superpowers, but the majority of Afghan Mujahedin groups perceive all their calamities as linked to the former Afghan monarch. Thus they announced there is no place for a despotic monarchy in Afghanistan. They asserted that although kings always despotically denigrate people's rights and are only concerned with their own and their families' interests, it must be noted that it was Zaher Shah's inefficiency and myopic attitude that paved the way for the Soviets' infiltration of Afghanistan. The former king facilitated the implementation of the Soviet's

plan in Afghanistan by sending Afghan students to the Soviet Union to train as pilots. It has been claimed that the Soviet Union extended its 3-year pilot training covers to 7 years and that it indoctrinated the Afghan students in Marxist ideology during that period. The Soviets then used these students when they returned to their homeland as Soviet sympathizers and elements in Afghanistan's affairs. It was these very Air Force officers who implemented the first tentative Marxist plot in Afghanistan prior to the onset of the Soviet intervention in that country and that brought Daud Khan to power. Subsequent plots allowed them to blatantly establish the pro-Soviet Marxist regime in Afghanistan which led to the beginning of the slaughter of the Muslim Afghan people in a bid to impose the atheistic Marxist ideology. Thus one can conclude that Mohammad Zaher Shah's acts were partly to blame for all the killings and bloodshed. Certainly the Muslim Afghan nation is sufficiently alert to prevent such arrogant deceptions from marring their fierce determination.

Foreign Minister Velayati Receives Cuban Envoy

LD141744 Tehran IRNA in English 1312 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 14, IRNA — The Cuban ambassador to Iran, Isidoro Contreras Perez met Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, here Thursday. During the meeting he held talks on the forthcoming visit of the Cuban foreign minister, Isidoro Malmierca, to Iran.

Welcoming the visit, Velayati said that exchange of visits between progressive and anti-imperialist countries would be effective in the expansion of bilateral relations.